

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
April 25, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scribner called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Brian Casey, Ted Koehler, Steve Moss, Susan Nakonieczny, Gustavo Reyna, and Mayor Tom Scribner.

Absent: Councilmember Rick Eskil.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, Parks & Recreation Director Andy Coleman, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Public Library Director Erin Wells, Human Resources Director Pam Taylor, Senior Planner Jon Maland, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Blue Zones Project update and resolution support.

Blue Zones Walla Walla Executive Director Meghan DeBolt provided an update on their activities and the City's involvement as a Blue Zones worksite. A resolution in support of their efforts is being sought from the City Council.

B. Presentation of preliminary library expansion designs for a Department of Commerce grant application.

Staff and Jonathan Hartung, SHKS Architects, reviewed the proposed \$4 million dollar expansion of the library. An application for a \$2 million grant will be submitted to the Department of Commerce. This grant has a match of \$2 million, \$1 million which has been set aside from the American Rescue Plan Act funds with another \$1 million from private donors. There was discussion on how this project may fit with a larger expansion under discussion with an anonymous donor.

C. Contract with Walla Walla Summer Theater Group for operation of the Fort Walla Walla Amphitheater.

Staff reported that the last performance at the Fort Walla Walla Amphitheater was in 2013. At the direction of Council, staff issued a request for proposals. One proposal from the Walla Walla Summer Theater

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Group (WWSTG) was received and reviewed by the Parks, Recreation and Urban Forestry Advisory Board who recommends entering into a contract.

Tyson Kaup and Jonathan Hartung, WWSTG, outlined their proposal to restore, renovate, and operate a summer theater program at the Fort Walla Walla Amphitheater. This proposal is a three-phase project with the first phase estimated at \$1.9 million with completion by summer 2024.

There was discussion on the proposal, including a long-term lease in exchange for the onsite investment in improvements.

- D. Potential amendments to the Shoreline Master Program and development regulations relating to reviewing and processing Shoreline Substantial Development Permits.

Staff reviewed a proposal to streamline the shoreline substantial development permit process that will not affect the outcome of having any impacts to the shoreline. After a review of all the shoreline permits issued since 2015, the only public comments pertained to the proposed project, not the actual shoreline permit. Amending the process as proposed will change shoreline permits from a Level IV review to a Level II administrative review unless the underlying land use/permit action dictates a higher level of review with a different approving authority, such as the Hearing Examiner or City Council. This will reduce the time for permit issuance from sixty-six plus days to approximately thirty days. This review corresponds with the legal requirement to update the shoreline management permit process.

There was discussion on the benefits of streamlining the permit process versus notification and giving the public an opportunity to comment.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.